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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Kiyonori SEKIGUCHI

Group Art Unit 2661

Appln. No. : 09/765,394

Examiner: Not Assigned Yet

Filed : January 22, 2001

For : APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR REMOTELY OPERATING A
PLURALITY OF INFORMATION DEVICES CONNECTED TO A
NETWORK PROVIDED WITH PLUG-AND-PLAY FUNCTION

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RECEIVED

MAR 12 2003

Sir :

Technology Center 2600

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §§1.97-1.98, Applicant hereby calls the following documents, which were cited in a Japanese Notice of Reason for Rejection dated January 21, 2003 for corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-013706, to the Examiner's attention:

(1) Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. 11-187061, published on July 9, 1999, together with an English language Abstract of the same.

The relevance and pertinent portions of this document are as noted on the attached copy of the Japanese Notice of Reason for Rejection, an English-Language translation of which is also attached hereto.

Applicant also calls the following documents which were cited, but not applied, in the

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above-mentioned Japanese Notice of Reason for Rejection:

(2) Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. 2000-295246, published on October 20, 2000, together with an English language Abstract of the same;

(3) Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. 9-215097, published on August 15, 1997, together with an English language Abstract of the same;

(4) Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. 11-178076, published on July 2, 1999, together with an English language Abstract of the same; and

(5) Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. 2000-13786, published on January 14, 2000, together with an English language Abstract of the same.

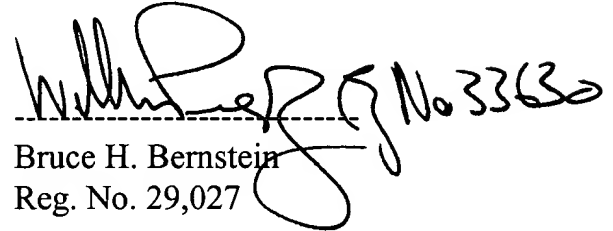
Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above materials and cite the patent documents. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached and have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicant with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Applicant notes that an Office Action on the merits has not yet issued in the instant application, and thus, no fee is necessary to ensure consideration of this statement.

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Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Kiyonori SEKIGUCHI

 No 33630

Bruce H. Bernstein
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March 5, 2003
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